When I began my journey in writing this thesis, the one thing I continually thought about was the acknowledgements. To me, the complete thesis is of utmost importance as it is a culmination of all my hard work, sacrifice, and dedication toward achieving the highest goal I have ever set for myself. Yet, far more important than the countless pages of research and data is the acknowledgement page because without the people I about to mention, there would be no more pages. Without certain people, there would be no thesis.

I would like to express my deep appreciation and gratitude towards my esteemed teacher, mentor, motivator, source of inspiration Dr. Rahat Ali Khan for his valuable guidance, support, constant supervision, keen interest, constructive suggestion, encouragement and kindness he has shown me throughout my research. Without his help and insight, this endeavor would have been impossible.

I would like to acknowledge my parents as the road they have traveled with me has been a long and rough one at times. And through every peak and valley they have held my hand, never letting me forget that my life is what I make of it and that no matter which path I choose, I will never be alone. Thank you for giving me life and teaching me how to make the most of it. Thank you for teaching me through examples rather than words, that hard work and dedication will always lead to success. And most of all, thank you for providing me with a constant flow of unconditional love every day of my life.
With deep sense of reverence, I express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to my honorable teacher Prof. Mahmood S. Khan, the then chairman, for giving his precious time towards my work.

I whole heartedly thank Prof. Hamida Ahmad, Prof. Akbar Husain, Prof. Shahina Maqbool, Dr. Mohd. Ilyas Khan, Dr. Asiya Aijaz, Dr. Musaddiq Jahan, Dr. Kr. Sajid Ali Khan, and all the respected teachers. They all have been always as a good supporter and imparted the best of their knowledge to me.

I cannot forget to mention my dear colleagues, Dr. Muzamil, Dr. Azam, Jasim, Aasaf and Late Hassan who always extended all cooperation at every step. Besides them, my chums Safiul, Shahidul, Zaki, Kalam, Meraj, Anas, Seemab and Shama. They have always provided an emotional, moral and practical support. Their company is an asset for me.

The credit of this work also goes to my special friends Kavita, Mahenaaz, Sultana, Tauqeer, Noor, Shaheen, Sadaf, Huma, Ashfiya for their constant support.

I express my thanks to the non-teaching staff of the department particularly Mr. Aqeel, Mr. Tajuddin, Mr. Aftab, Mr. Sharique, Mr. Ghaus, Mr. Majaz, Mr. Kafeel and Mr. Javed for their help time to time and a big thanks for technical support to Mr. Tarique Wali.